

State of New Jersey DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

DIVISION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE Mail Code 501-03 PO BOX 420 Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0420 David Chanda, Director www.NJFishandWildlife.com (609) 292-2965 BOB MARTIN Commissioner

January 23, 2014

Dear New Jersey Black Sea Bass Permit Holder: New Jersey Black Sea Bass Dealer:

The New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife has determined that the Season 1 (January 1 – April 15) directed black sea bass quota of 151,533 pounds will be harvested by January 26, 2014. Based upon this information and pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:25-18.12(h), the New Jersey directed black sea bass fishery will be closed as of 6:00 PM, Sunday, January 26, 2014.

Effective 6:01 PM, Sunday, January 26, 2014, no vessel shall land or possess and no dealer shall accept any black sea bass in excess of the by-catch trip limit of 100 pounds through March 31, 2014 or 50 pounds through April 15, 2014 or until such time as the seasonal by-catch is projected to be taken. By-catch landings may not exceed ten percent, by weight, of all species landed and sold.

The directed black sea bass fishery will re-open on April 16, 2014, with directed trip limit options of 1,000 pounds three times a week or 1,500 pounds twice a week or 3,000 pounds once a week. If you have any questions, please contact the Bureau of Marine Fisheries at 609-748-2020.

Sincerely,

Brondon Muppley

Brandon Muffley Marine Fisheries Administration

CHRIS CHRISTIE Governor

KIM GUADAGNO Lt. Governor

BM/PC/KS